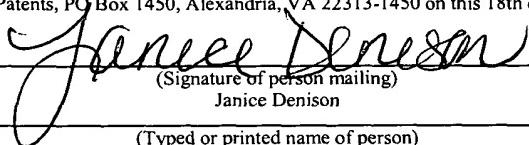




Patent Application
Attorney Docket No. PC11026A

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Hon. Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 18th day of August, 2003.

By _____


(Signature of person mailing)
Janice Denison

(Typed or printed name of person)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Hall, et al. :

Examiner: Chakrabarti, A.K.

APPLICATION NO.: 10/032,242 :

FILING DATE: 12/21/2001 : Group Art Unit: 1634

TITLE: Methods and Reagents for Detecting
Increased Risk of Developing an
Inflammatory Disorder

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the Office Action mailed June 16, 2003, Applicants answer as follows.

Remarks

Applicants hereby elect Group I (claims 1-11 drawn to methods for detecting an increased risk for developing an inflammatory disorder) with traverse. It is respectfully submitted that it would not be an undue burden on the Examiner to search all of the claims of this application at once. All of the claims are drawn to the same inventive method, or kits for practicing the same. As such, it would not be an undue burden upon the Examiner to search all claims simultaneously.

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With respect to the election of species requirement, Applicants hereby elect the species of rheumatoid arthritis with traverse.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-1445.

A Notice of Allowance is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

8/18/03



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